

Introduction to the Auto-Enrollment Notice

What Is the Purpose of This Notice?

The purpose of the auto-enrollment notice is to inform people with Medicare and full Medicaid coverage about the change in their drug coverage from Medicaid to Medicare. The notice explains that these individuals will be enrolled in a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan if they haven't joined a plan on their own, what plan Medicare will enroll them in, and their costs in the plan. It will also notify them that their Medicaid isn't creditable prescription drug coverage. The notice includes a one-page letter printed on yellow paper, and one page (front and back) of questions and answers about Medicare prescription drug coverage.

The notice was revised for the monthly mailing with the following changes:

- Directs people to call their plan for more information instead of having them wait to get information in the mail from their plan
- Adds a reference for people who move or have a representative payee
- Updates the enrollment effective date
- Revises the choice of plans message with a switch plans message

Who Will Get This Notice?

Medicare will mail the notice to people with Medicare and full Medicaid coverage. Please note that this mailing is limited to those who currently get their Medicare benefits through the Original Medicare Plan.

How Often Will Medicare Mail These Notices?

This notice will be mailed on a monthly basis beginning in January.

What Should People Do Next?

They should call their Medicare drug plan to get information about their new coverage, and read the materials the plan sends in the mail.

If the person with Medicare has moved recently, or if someone is getting this letter because he or she is a representative payee for a person with Medicare, they should call the plan to be sure it serves the area the person with Medicare currently lives in. If it doesn't, they should call 1-800-MEDICARE to choose and join a plan that serves that state.

If they want information about the other Medicare drug plans available in their area, they can do the following:

- Visit www.medicare.gov on the web and get personalized drug plan information.
- Call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227) for a list of the specific plans. TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.
- Call their State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) for free personalized health insurance counseling. See the "Medicare & You" handbook or call 1-800-MEDICARE for their telephone number.



7500 Security Boulevard
Baltimore, MD 21244-1850

<BENEFICIARY FULL NAME>
<ADDRESS>
<CITY, STATE ZIP>

HICN <1234>
<file creation date>

Dear <Beneficiary Full Name>,

Please read this letter carefully because your prescription drug coverage is changing. You are getting this letter because our records show that you have Medicare and that you were eligible for Medicaid in all or part of this year.

Medicare will help pay for your prescription drugs instead of Medicaid. If you continue to be eligible for Medicaid, Medicaid will still pay for your health care costs that Medicare doesn't cover.

To get Medicare prescription drug coverage, you need to join a Medicare drug plan. Medicare is enrolling you in <Organization's name>'s <Name of plan> and your coverage begins <auto-enrollment effective date>. With this Medicare-approved drug plan, you pay

- \$0 for your monthly prescription drug plan premium,
- \$0 for your yearly prescription drug plan deductible, and
- <insert LIS copayment amount> copayment when you fill a prescription covered by the plan.

Please call <Name of plan> at <Plan phone> for more information about your new Medicare prescription drug coverage. When you call the plan, they may ask for your address. You may also visit <Plan website> on the web for more information.

If you would like to switch to a different Medicare drug plan, call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227) for a list of the prescription drug plans with no premium in your area, other drug coverage options and help comparing plans and joining a plan that works for you.

If you need help understanding this letter or the questions and answers attached, please show it to a family member, friend, case manager, or someone you trust. You can also call your State Health Insurance Assistance Program or 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227) for help. TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.

Sincerely,

Mark McClellan, M.D., Ph.D.
Administrator
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

Para obtener una copia de este aviso en español, llame GRATIS al 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). Los usuarios de TTY deben llamar al 1-877-486-2048.

Important Questions and Answers about Your New Drug Coverage

What should I do now?

Call your Medicare drug plan to get information about your new drug coverage, and read the materials your plan sends you in the mail.

If you have moved recently, or you are getting this letter because you are a representative payee for someone with Medicare, please call the plan to be sure it serves where you or the person with Medicare currently lives. If it doesn't, please call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227) to choose and join a plan that serves that state. TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.

If you want to learn about other plans you can join, call 1-800-MEDICARE or visit www.medicare.gov for information about other Medicare drug plans available in your area. Compare the plans and join a Medicare drug plan that works for you. You should find out which plans cover the prescriptions you take and what pharmacies you can use to fill your prescriptions. If you join a different plan, you may have to pay a small monthly premium instead of \$0. Be sure to ask about the premium when you are comparing plans.

You can switch plans any time, with the new coverage effective the next month. To join a different Medicare drug plan, call the new plan to find out how to join. Joining a different plan will end your current Medicare drug plan coverage.

You can also call your State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) for free personalized health insurance counseling. See your copy of the "Medicare & You" handbook or call 1-800-MEDICARE for their telephone number.

What is Medicare prescription drug coverage?

Medicare prescription drug coverage is insurance. Private companies provide the coverage through Medicare drug plans. There may be many Medicare drug plans available in your area to choose from.

Medicare drug plans help you pay for both brand-name and generic drugs you need. Plans have a list of drugs covered by the plan. The drug list may not include your specific drug. However, in most cases, a similar drug that is safe and effective should be available.

Medicare drug plans serving your area must contract with pharmacies in your area. Check with the plan to make sure the pharmacies in the plan are convenient to you. Some plans also allow you to get your prescriptions through the mail.

What are the differences between Medicare and Medicaid?

- Medicaid is the program in your state that pays health care costs for people with limited income and resources. It may be called something different in your state.
- Medicare is the federal health insurance program for people age 65 or older, people under age 65 with certain disabilities, and people of all ages with End-Stage Renal Disease.

Medicare will continue to help pay for your health care costs. And if you continue to be eligible for Medicaid, Medicaid will still pay for some or all of your health care costs that Medicare doesn't cover (including prescriptions in some limited cases for drugs not covered by Medicare prescription drug coverage). If you aren't sure if you are still eligible for Medicaid, contact your state Medicaid program to find out.

Can I keep my Medicaid drug coverage?

No. Medicaid won't continue the drug coverage it currently provides. Some state Medicaid programs may cover the few prescriptions that won't be covered under Medicare prescription drug coverage. But even if your state Medicaid program covers a few prescriptions, this coverage alone won't be as good as standard Medicare prescription drug coverage.

What if I have other prescription drug coverage, besides Medicaid?

If you have, or are eligible for other types of prescription coverage, read all the materials you get from your insurer or plan provider. Examples of other types of prescription drug coverage include coverage from an employer or union, TRICARE, the Department of Veteran's Affairs, or a Medigap policy. Talk to your benefits administrator, insurer, or plan provider. You may not need to join a Medicare drug plan.

Note: Prescription drug coverage does NOT include doctor samples, discount cards, Medicare-approved drug discount cards with or without the \$600 credit, free clinics, or drug discount websites.

What if I don't want Medicare prescription drug coverage?

If you don't want to join, and you don't want Medicare to enroll you in a Medicare drug plan, call 1-800-MEDICARE and tell them you don't want to join. But, keep in mind that you pay nothing to stay in the plan. If you drop this coverage and need prescription drugs, Medicaid will not pay for them, and Medicare won't pay until you join a plan. If you keep this plan or join another, you have peace of mind knowing the coverage is there if you need it. However, if you tell Medicare you don't want to join a Medicare drug plan, you could have no prescription drug coverage. You can change your mind and join a Medicare drug plan at any time, but you may have to pay a penalty to join later.